



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1696

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

#### 4. Project/Program Description

The Australian Avenue Drainage Improvement project will construct a new underground stormwater drainage collection and treatment system in this 3 mile corridor, to alleviate flooding that occurs during storm events. Construction of the new system will require reconstruction of the existing 4-lane median divided roadway, and includes the addition of 4' shoulders, new curb and gutter, sidewalks that vary from 6'-8' in width, mast arm traffic signal upgrades at 7 intersections, and replacement of 4 functionally obsolete bridges. The City of West Palm Beach will also replace 2 lift stations, line significant portions of its force mains, and replace significant portions of its water mains within the project limits.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

#### 6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2026-2027

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	2,500,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>2,500,000</b>

#### 7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	2,500,000	4%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	13,300,000	20%
Local	49,600,000	76%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027</b>	<b>65,400,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

9. Is future-year funding likely to be requested?

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.



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## Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

### 10. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

☐ Planning ☐ Design ☒ Construction ☐ N/A

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?

Yes

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

08/03/2026

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

04/30/2029

e. What funding stream will be used for ongoing operations and maintenance of the project?

Ongoing maintenance and operational costs will be funded through Palm Beach County's Engineering and Public Works Department budget allocation.

### 11. List the owners of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owners of the facility and the entity.

Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners - owner of the facility (Australian Avenue from Banyan Boulevard to 45th Street).

### 12. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	N/A	0
Other Salary and Benefits	N/A	0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	N/A	0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	N/A	0
<b>Operational Costs</b>		
Salary and Benefits	N/A	0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	N/A	0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	N/A	0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	All funding will be utilized to construct the project, namely, installation of a new underground stormwater drainage system, complete road reconstruction with shoulder and sidewalk widening, replacement of 4 functionally obsolete bridges, and upgrades from span wire traffic signals to mast arm traffic signals. Work also includes replacement of 2 City of West Palm Beach lift stations, lining of City force mains, and replacement of City water mains.	2,500,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>2,500,000</b>

### 13. Program Performance

a. What specific purpose or goal will be achieved by the funds requested?



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This project will construct a new stormwater drainage system to alleviate flooding throughout the 3 mile corridor that occurs during regular and significant rainfall and/or storm events. The nature of this work requires significant underground work that will necessitate reconstruction of the roadway as a whole, which allows the opportunity to provide roadway shoulders/bike lanes, to expand sidewalks, and to replace the 4 functionally obsolete bridges in this corridor to bring them up to current safety standards.

**b. What activities and services will be provided to meet the intended purpose of these funds?**

A new stormwater drainage system will be constructed that is comprised of more than 150 new stormwater drainage inlets, over 13,000 linear feet of underground pipes, and roughly 4 acres of land adjacent to the Carver Canal will be excavated and shaped into a new pond to expand stormwater drainage capacity. The roadway will be completely reconstructed and widened to include shoulders and wider sidewalks, and 4 functionally obsolete bridges will be raised to the extent possible and replaced.

**c. What direct services will be provided to citizens by the appropriation project?**

Many of the adjacent properties and older developments drain to the Australian Avenue right-of-way today, overwhelming the existing open-swale drainage system, causing flooding both in the road and properties adjacent to it. Construction of the new stormwater drainage system will alleviate both road flooding and offsite flooding that occurs by expanding the capacity of the drainage system as a whole, and providing additional locations for the system to drain to the Carver Canal. In addition, the new roadside shoulders can be utilized by cyclists, and the new and wider sidewalks provide additional pedestrian accommodation and mobility opportunities.

**d. Who is the target population served by this project? How many individuals are expected to be served?**

This roadway serves the travelling public as a regionally significant north/south roadway, carrying over 28,000 vehicles per day. The population directly served by this 3-mile long project includes over 120 single family homes, 20+ commercial businesses, non-profits and churches, 3 apartment complexes, residents of the Twin Lakes West Palm Beach Housing Authority community, 2 schools, and 3 Palm Tran bus routes, all of whom experience the effects of Australian Avenue flooding during rain and significant storm events.

**e. What is the expected benefit or outcome of this project? What is the methodology by which this outcome will be measured?**

The expected benefit of this project is to eliminate flooding on Australian Avenue and along the adjacent properties and neighborhoods. This will be measured by documenting the reduction in maintenance repairs and costs, reduction in emergency calls related to flood and/or infrastructure failure, evaluation of the improved/increased life of the pavement and all road and bridge infrastructure within the project limits.

**f. What are the suggested penalties that the contracting agency may consider in addition to its standard penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures provided for in the contract?**

Liquidated damages will be assessed for non-performance of the construction contract and/or excessive delays.

**14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster?**

**a. If Yes, what phase best describes the project?**

- ☐ Mitigation (reducing or eliminating potential loss of life or property)
- ☐ Response (addressing the immediate and short-term effects of a natural disaster)
- ☐ Recovery (assisting communities return to normal operations, including rebuilding damaged infrastructure)

**b. Name of the natural disaster (or Executive Order # for events not under a federal declaration):**

**15. Has the entity applied for or received federal assistance for this project?**

- ☐ Yes, Applied



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- ☐ Yes, Received
- ☐ No
- ☐ No, but intends to apply

**a. If yes, provide the FEMA project worksheet ID#:**

**b. Provide the total project cost listed on the FEMA project worksheet:**

**16. Has the entity applied for or received state assistance for this project (other than this request)?**

- ☐ Yes, Applied
- ☐ Yes, Received
- ☐ No
- ☐ No, but intends to apply

**a. If yes, specify the program and state agency (ex. Local Government Emergency Bridge Loan, Department of Commerce):**

**Please complete questions 17 through 21 for Water Projects only.**

**17. Have you been awarded or applied for alternative state funding for this project?**

- ☐ Water Quality Improvement Grant Program
- ☒ Resilient Florida Grant Program
- ☐ Wastewater Revolving Loan
- ☐ Drinking Water Revolving Loan
- ☐ Small Community Wastewater Treatment Grant
- ☐ Other (please specify, ex. Alternative Water Supply Grants)
- ☐ N/A

**18. What is the population economic status?**

- ☐ Financially Disadvantaged Community (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)
- ☐ Financially Disadvantaged Municipality (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)
- ☐ Rural Area of Economic Concern



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☐ Rural Area of Opportunity (s. 288.0656, Florida Statutes)

☒ N/A

#### 19. What is the status of construction?

Construction is expected to begin in August 2026.

#### 20. What percentage of the construction has been completed?

0

#### 21. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

04/30/2029

#### 22. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name  Last Name   
b. Organization   
c. E-mail Address   
d. Phone Number  Ext.

#### 23. Recipient Contact Information

a. Organization   
b. Municipality and County

#### c. Organization Type

- ☐ For Profit Entity  
☐ Non Profit 501(c)(3)  
☐ Non Profit 501(c)(4)  
☒ Local Entity  
☐ University or College  
☐ Other (please specify)

d. First Name  Last Name   
e. E-mail Address   
f. Phone Number  Ext.

#### 24. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name   
b. Firm Name



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c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number

*The information provided will be posted to the Florida Senate website for public viewing if sponsored by a Senator.*